



Minutes Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission City of Pacifica

Regular Meeting – 7 PM
Wednesday, August 28, 2024
2122 Beach Blvd. Pacifica, CA 94044

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Benton Shoemaker: called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Staudenbaur: led the Pledge of Allegiance

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Chair Benton Shoemaker, Commissioner Abbott, Commissioner Banks, Commissioner Staudenbaur

Commissioner Excused: Commissioner Phillips, Commissioner Torres, and Commissioner Buie

Staff Present: Acting Director Scott Leslie, Recreation Supervisor Anthony Schriver, Recreation Coordinator Aquatics Mitchell Klassen, and Recreation Administrative Specialist Sabrina Krenn

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chair Benton Shoemaker called for a motion to approve the minutes 7/24/2024. **A motion was made by Commissioner Staudenbaur, seconded by Commissioner Banks, motion carried 4-0.**

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Benton Shoemaker asked if any Commissioner wanted to make any changes to the agenda 8/28/2024. No objections. **Motion carried 4-0.**

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A. Snowy Plover at Pacifica State Beach – Margaret Goodale

Margaret Goodale reported on the snowy plover, a tiny, rare shorebird that has been identified as threatened and nests on Pacifica's beaches. Goodale cited evidence of the declining population of snowy plovers across the west coast of the United States, including in Pacifica, and gave a history of conservation and education efforts that have been made to help protect the snowy plover. Goodale stressed that snowy plovers have severe reactions to dogs in their vicinity and that one of the best ways to help protect snowy plovers is to enforce leash laws and educate the public about the harm their off-leash dogs can do. Goodale thanked the Commission for taking care of and caring about Pacifica.

The Commissioners thanked Margaret Goodale for her presentation.

Commissioner Staudenbaur inquired about what leash laws currently exist and what the penalty is for having an off-leash dog. Acting Director Leslie responded that there is a fine, though offenders are typically given a warning for their first offense, and that the park rangers and police are who enforces this law.

Commissioner Banks asked for further clarification on the results of recovery plans that Goodale mentioned in her presentation. Goodale explained that the progress was still being monitored and that much of the data was previously focused on breeding success, but has begun to shift towards minimizing disturbances. Commissioner Banks also asked if Goodale still went to the Pacifica

elementary schools to educate children on the significance of the snowy plover, but she is no longer able to and is optimistic someone else could restart this program.

Commissioner Abbott complimented Goodale's life-size model of the plovers that she brought with her and expounded upon Goodale's work educating elementary school students about the threatened snowy plovers. Commissioner Abbott explained the Commissions' efforts in the past to help protect the snowy plovers, including building fencing that designated a certain portion of the beach as a protected space for snowy plovers. Commissioner Abbott also spoke about her own experience joining Goodale on a survey of the plovers on the beach and how much the birds were disturbed in the time they were there, mostly due to off-leash dogs.

Chair Benton-Shoemaker asked for clarification about what the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Department as well as what the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission's relationship is with the rangers. Acting Director Leslie explained that the rangers may enforce laws on the beach, but they are actually part of the Public Works Department, not Parks, Beaches, and Recreations.

B. Introduction of New Aquatics Coordinator – Recreation Coordinator Aquatics Mitchell Klassen

Coordinator Klassen explained his background history, including working for the City of San Leandro and the Hayward Area Recreation District. He has worked in the aquatics field for five years and is a certified lifeguard. He has experience working with senior services and customer service as well.

The Commissioners thanked Coordinator Klassen for his presentation and welcomed him to Pacifica.

Commissioner Abbott noted that Coordinator Klassen has already assisted her with a pool related inquiry and stressed how popular Jean E. Brink Pool is to the public. Commissioner Abbott also inquired about what the best way to sign up to be a lifeguard is as she knows someone who is interested.

Commissioner Banks welcomed Coordinator Klassen and expressed his excitement to see what Coordinator Klassen can bring to the Aquatics program with his experience and outside perspective.

Chair Benton-Shoemaker welcomed Coordinator Klassen and asked what he is working on the most at this time. Coordinator Klassen answered that he and Recreation Supervisor Anthony Shriver are working on hiring more lifeguards and plan to expand the Aquatics program offerings.

C. Final Plans of Priority Parks – Acting Director Scott Leslie

Acting Director Leslie gave a brief history on the priority parks project's planning and designing phases and stressed that the plans he shared during that meeting were final and not subject to any further edits. Acting Director Leslie stated that the current timeline for the project included putting the plans out for bidding in Fall 2024, with construction most likely starting early 2025. The estimated cost of this project is somewhere between \$1.5-2 million. Acting Director Leslie shared the design plans and visualizations for the four priority parks: Brighton Park, Marvilla Park, Imperial Park, and Skyridge Park. Acting Director Leslie highlighted changes to the designs and notable features that the Commission played a role in implementing, such as the addition of seating and trees, as well as the removal of potentially hazardous features. Acting Director Leslie stressed that all four priority parks will have ADA accessible pathing leading up to the playground structures.

Chair Benton-Shoemaker asked which age groups the playground structures were targeted towards. Acting Director Leslie explained that all four of the parks had at least one play structure that was targeted towards children either 0-5 years old or 2-5 years old, and one for children 5-12 years old. Chair Benton-Shoemaker also asked for clarification about how much of the seating at these parks were traditional benches or chairs versus nontraditional seating. Acting Director Leslie clarified that some of the parks had a mix of both.

Commissioner Banks inquired if picnic benches or features were going to be added to these parks so they could be used for gatherings. Acting Director Leslie explained that due to their lack of restrooms and being located directly in neighborhoods (between residential homes), they did not want to encourage large gatherings that would not be feasible and could potentially be disruptive

to those who live nearby. Commissioner Banks also asked if there would be water fountains. Acting Director Leslie explained that the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation department will be applying for a grant that would include money to construct bottle fill stations.

Commissioner Staudenbaur asked for clarification about the timeline for the completion of the priority parks project. Acting Director Leslie explained that while construction would most likely be starting in spring 2025, whether or not the parks would be built all at once, one after another, or staggered would ultimately be up to the bidding company.

Commissioner Abbott expressed excitement for the ADA pathing in all of the parks, and that feedback from the Commission and the community had been incorporated. Commissioner Abbott stressed the importance of having parks in walkable distance from neighborhoods.

VI. ORAL COMMUNICATION

None.

VII. ITEMS FOR CONSENT

None.

VIII. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

None.

IX. REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners gave updates on their liaison assignments and community involvement.

Commissioner Staudenbaur spoke about his involvement with the Youth Advisory Board and their upcoming events, such as the Wild West J-Teen dance. **Commissioner Abbott** spoke about the beach safety pop-up she as well as Supervisor Schriver and a member of the Emergency Preparedness and Safety Commission did on August 10th which involved educating the public about the recently installed life buoys at the beaches. Commissioner Abbot also talked about the election of officers for the Seniors in Action Council board, the Seniors in Action membership drive, and the trip that the SIA Council went on to see what amenities other community centers and senior centers offered. Commissioner Abbott mentioned the upcoming Pacifica Coastside EV Expo on October 26th. **Chair Benton-Shoemaker** brought up that Calera Creek Park was not included in the city's General Plan despite its importance to Vallemar neighborhood and requested that it be added to Parks, Beaches, and Recreation list of parks.

X. REPORTS FROM STAFF

Acting Director Scott Leslie gave the following statements and updates:

- **Community Center Updates**

- The back half of the Community Center is slowly being reopened to classes. Both Hula and Ping-Pong are now in the dance pod, with more classes to follow.
- All but one of the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation staff have moved into their permanent locations in the Community Center
- Supervisor Schriver is spearheading the initiative to reopen and add contract classes. January 2025 is expected to have the first full offering of classes since prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Play Brochure will be reinstated, but the exact form and timeline is still undetermined.
- The Community Center has been selected for the installation of twenty trees for Arbor Day.
- There is a new staff taskforce that is working on designing soft spaces for the Community Center.

- **Jean E. Brink Pool**

- The pool was temporarily shut down for two weeks due to a technical issue, but it has been repaired and reopened.

- **Pickleball**

- Parks, Beaches, and Recreation approached Jefferson Union High School District to convert tennis courts into pickleball courts due to the fast-growing popularity of the

sport.

- **Child Care Division**
 - There are 435 children enrolled in the program.
 - There are waitlists for the school-age programs at Vallemar, Cabrillo, and Ocean Shore.
 - The program is at least 40% subsidized which means it receives support from government grants.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - Coastal Cleanup
 - Fog Fest
 - Fun Fest (40 years old)
 - Halloween Event
 - EV Expo
 - Voting at the Community Center
 - Arbor Day
 - Ohlone Portola Heritage Hike
 - Pacifica Polar Palooza
 - Rockaway Tree Lighting
- **Staff Changes**
 - Mitchell Klassen hired as Aquatics Coordinator
 - Three Child Care staff were promoted to full-time, and there was one external hire for a full-time staff

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Benton Shoemaker called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion was made by Commissioner Abbott, seconded by Commissioner Banks, motion carried 4-0**

Next Regular Meeting: Regular meeting – September 25, 2024, 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by,
Sabrina Krenn, Recreation Administrative Specialist
Pacifica Parks, Beaches, and Recreation



Pacifica Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Com...
Chair Gail Benton-Shoemaker